contains names which have been found to be fake as well as of traders.

(b) Sheet cuttings are being sold by M/s. TISCO through auction and not specially to actual consumers. This is not an offence under the extent provisions of the statute.

Suspension of productive activities of Haldia fertiliser plant

763. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:
DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have ordered for suspension of all productive activities in Rs. 500 crores fertilizer complex at Haldia eight months ago;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor in view of the perennial shortage of fertilisers in the country; and

(c) the details of the gains achieved as a result of the above order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) to (c) Haldia Fertilizer Project is still a project and has not started commercial production. As there were frequent equipment problems during the commissioning of the plant, Government decided, in October, 1986, to stop the commissioning activities. It was also decided to undertake an end-to-end survey of the project for which consultants are being engaged.

Distribution of Steel

764. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:
SHRI K. MOHANAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any law to govern the distribution of iron and steel in and outside the country;

(b) if so, what are details thereof;

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in negative, whether Government propose to introduce a Bill in the current Session of Parliament to regulate distribution of iron and steel, in view of wide spread corruption by manufacturers; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Provisions exist to regulate the distribution, possession and use of iron and steel inside the country under the Iron and Steel (Control) Order, 1956 notified under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. These provisions enable the Government to give necessary directives to the producers of iron and steel with a view to securing proper distribution; proper utilisation of iron and steel by the consumer is also enforceable under these provisions. Export of iron and steel from the country is governed by the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, and Exports (Control) Order, 1977 notified thereunder.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Supply of T-1 Sheets to actual users by TISCO

765. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tata Iron and Steel Co. is not supplying T-1 sheet cuttings to actual users i.e. bucket manufacturers; and

(b) if so, whether it is an offence as per law of the land?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. However, they are sel-